

Missionary

THE VIRGINIA SYNOD'S HOME MISSIONS.

To Pastors, and Especially to the Treasurers in Virginia.

The undersigned is sending off checks for January salaries today (January 28) to twenty-two men engaged in our Virginia Synod's Home Mission work. After these checks are sent, very little will be left in the treasury. We have the laudable record in our Synod of having paid our men promptly every month, for five or six years, and we do not want to break that record. We have enlarged the work every year, and paid up promptly each month. Is there any one in our Synod who wants that record broken? If so, "let him hold up his hand."

Our expenses, at present, are over nine hundred dollars (\$900) per month. We are winding up the fourth month of our year (year began 1st of October, 1908), and comparatively few churches have sent us any funds the past four months. Even some of our staunchest old stand-by's have neglected us. What's the matter?

From much past experience, we judge that hundreds of dollars are, at this writing in the hands of the church treasurers which should be in our hands; so, please, won't you pastors go and see those treasurers and ask them to send those funds right on to Box 441, Farmville, Virginia? Some are still sending to Lexington, Virginia; if they won't comply with your earnest entreaties, then let our committee know, and we will write a kind and stirring letter to them; if that letter fails, we will send them a "special delivery" letter; if that fails, we will send them a telegram or wireless message, and if that fails, then the only other thing to do is to put them in the hands of an undertaker. We are going to send out another issue of "Go!" about the last of February, or March 1st, as preliminary to our spring reports to the Presbyteries; "Go!" generally hews very gently, but very close to the line. We would like to show that every church in Synod has done something for our Synod's work during the first five months, and surely not one wishes us to run this work five long months without helping us, and especially as it is the general consensus of the opinion of the Synod that "it is the most important work the Synod is doing." Now, brethren, look into this matter; attend to it!

The above mentioned monthly payment record for nearly six years is your record; you have made it by standing by your committee, and you are the ones to say whether it shall be broken. We don't know what others may think of it, but your committee is proud of it, and we trust it is not the pride which goeth before a fall, and we dare say it is a record of which few Synods can boast.

We are quite sure that the great November snow-storm which swept over our Synod did our Synod's Home Mission cause much harm, for November is one of the two months appointed by Synod for this collection, but please remember that snow storms may come and snow storms

may go, but these twenty-two faithful men in our work (most of them) have families dependent on them, and need their monthly dues; they look to your committee, and certainly your committee has nowhere else to look but to you and to your churches.

We hope to hear from you very soon. Cordially,

J. E. Booker, Supt. and Treas.

Box 441, Farmville, Va.

P. S.—Please don't lay this paper down until you have seen your treasurer.

TO THE PASTORS AND SESSIONS OF THE CHURCHES IN THE PRESBYTERY OF ARKANSAS.

Brethren: Your attention is earnestly called to the fact that February is set apart by the action of the General Assembly for offerings in all the churches for the cause of Local Home Missions, in our case for mission work within the bounds of the Presbytery of Arkansas. During the past year much aggressive work has been done. We have entered two counties not hitherto occupied by our Church, having organized a church at Earle in Crittenden county, and one at Cotter in Baxter. Since the first of December we have had two evangelists and one Gospel singer in the field. Meetings of much fruitfulness have been held in several of our weaker churches, resulting in more than 150 additions to our church rolls. What has been done is very small when compared with what remains to be done. We are greatly hampered for want of funds. Twenty-one churches have contributed to this work during the last year, some of them with great liberality, some very meagerly, while the nine churches which have contributed nothing include four of the largest churches in the Presbytery.

Brethren, this is your work, especially laid upon you by the great Head of the Church—it is "building before your own door" and surely you will not allow it to languish or be crippled by a failure on your part to provide adequate means for its vigorous prosecution. We appeal to you in behalf of the thousands of men and women, within the bounds of this Presbytery, hungry for the Gospel as we believe and preach it, that you make your offerings for this cause during the approaching month commensurate with the blessings you have received and with the pressing needs of this field "already white unto the harvest."

When your offerings have been made, please remit promptly to James P. Coffin, Treasurer, Batesville, Arkansas.

Your brethren in the Lord,

Robert H. Latham, Chairman.

James P. Coffin, Secretary,

Home Mission Committee, Arkansas Presbytery.

HOME MISSIONS.

Home Mission work in the Atlantic States seems to be in the background in the Presbyterian Church. If I am not mistaken Charleston Presbytery, at our last meeting of Synod, reported three churches dissolved last year. It ought not so to be. There is a lack of energy somewhere. Other churches are growing and doing fine mission work. Our Baptist brethren in this county have a church at about every cross road, and in all the

state they are pressing the work hard. The Church of Rome is now taking a strong hold, all along the Atlantic Coast from Baltimore, her headquarters, on to New Orleans. On last Sabbath, she dedicated a church in Columbia, S. C., which cost about forty five thousand dollars.

What are we Presbyterians doing? In a large measure looking on as the dark mantle of Rome is spreading itself from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from Canada to the gulf. If we do not bestir ourselves, the day is not far distant when the cry will be too late; our liberty, civil and religious, will be largely taken from us. Let us arouse our Church to do greater things for Christ, and His Kingdom, in Home Field than ever before. Let each Church, which has been sending \$50 for Foreign Missions, send an equal amount to Home Missions, and let each Church which has been sending \$100 to Foreign Missions, send just that amount to Home Missions, and those Churches which are at present supporting a man in the foreign field, put also a man in the Home Field. Let this work be begun at our coming spring meetings of the different Presbyteries, so all our mission fields this coming summer will have a man and much new work can be opened up in our large cities.

This will in no wise hurt our great foreign work; fear not, brethren, the God of our Fathers still liveth and will help when we devise liberal things for him and his Zion.

Let twenty thousand dollars be put in the treasury of Home Missions for the Synod of South Carolina, and let our sister states come up on this line and a year of victory for Christ will dawn on us; let us look out for men from our Seminaries, and from Canada, and also from Bonnie Scotland, till the ranks of our workers be filled up. I was pleased to see from a paper not long since that one of our brethren from Canada had accepted a call to work in the city of Chester. Come help us, till all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

JAMES RUSSELL RUBY.

TO THE WOMEN OF THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Woman's Missionary Union of East Hanover Presbytery wishes to express its warm appreciation of the generous response, to the "Appeal to the Women" to assist in raising the debt of \$50,000 resting on our Foreign Committee at Nashville. The amount received to date is over \$14,000, more than one-fourth in less than six months.

Truly have the women done well; the response indicates a deep interest in the work of Foreign Missions, and what may be done by consecrated effort. Let us not be weary in well doing, but make a systematic and self-sacrificing effort to raise the balance, \$36,000, by the first of April, 1909. This would lift the burden from the committee, bring relief to our Missionaries, and prove to those over-taxed workers, that we are still standing behind them, ever ready to help with heart and hand.

Thirty-six thousand dollars seems a formidable sum, but we have not yet exhausted our resources, nor are we willing to give up the fight.

The pastors may help us by presenting